

Fields of Honor Memorial

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Fields of Honor
Foundation



Personal info

Full name

DREYER, Clem Joseph

Date of birth

24 November 1924

Age

19

Place of birth

Michigan City, LaPorte County, Indiana

Hometown

Michigan, La Porte County, Indiana

Military service

Service number

35094551

Rank

Sergeant

Unit

**325th Bombardment Squadron,
92nd Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

**Purple Heart,
Air Medal**

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

29 May 1944

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Ardennes

Plot	Row	Grave
B	22	17

Plane data

Serial number

42-37877

Data

Type: B-17G

Nickname: Popcorn Fort

Destination: Cottbus, Germany

Mission: Bombing of the Focke-Wulf Aviation Industry

MACR: 5357

More information

Sgt. Clem J. Dreyer graduated from Elston High School.

He enlisted from Indianapolis, Indiana on 22 February 1943.

Statement of 2nd Lt Herdman S. Porter, O-813057:

"Ship 877 was hit on first or second attack. A 20mm went through left wing, outboard of #1 engine. 877 flew in his position for about ten (10) minutes, then peeled off to the right, apparently under control.

About a minute after that, the left wing buckled and fire started at the trailing edge. A few seconds thereafter, the wing section broke off and the ship went into a steep spiral to the left out of control. Seven chutes were seen by my crew members."

Statement of 2nd Lt Harry Avery, pilot of A/C 42-37877:

"Our plane was hit by enemy fighter action, caught on fire and blew up on mid-air. After plane was hit I gave orders for men to put chutes on and bail out. The navigator and I saw two bodies on ground without chutes which evidently were blown out of plane. Our navigator recognized clothing on one of the bodies to be that of bombardier's (2nd Lt Stewart). I believe that the other body was subject's (S/Sgt Mc Ilroy)."

Clem J. Dreyer was last seen in the waist, ready to bail out. The centrifugal forces held him in the ship. He crashed with the plane.

Photos



Source of information: Raf Dyckmans, Terry Hirsch, www.wwiimemorial.com, www.archives.gov, www.fold3.com - MACR, WWII Draft Card

Photo source: Jac Engels, www.panoramio.com / Pawelm (plaque at crashsite), Gene McIlroy, Elston High School, 1943